

Meeting Minutes
Virginia Board of Education
Board of Education Standards of Quality (SOQ) Committee
Tuesday, November 16, 2004

- Dr. Gary Jones, chairman of the committee on the Standards of Quality, and Mr. Thomas Jackson, Board President, opened the meeting. Mr. Jackson indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to go through the recommended SOQ changes as presented to Board in its September meeting in order to provide a level of comfort with the proposal. Dr. Jones echoed that sentiment.
- Other Board of Education members present: Mrs. Isis Castro, Mr. Scott Goodman, Mr. David Johnson, and Mrs. Eleanor Saslaw.
- Ms. Anne Wescott provided a summary of the public comments received regarding the proposed changes to the SOQ and detailed the changes to the SOQ based upon public comment. She indicated that the changes proposed for the 2005 General Assembly do not have financial implications. To coincide with the re-basing of the SOQ, public comments related to changes with fiscal impact would be considered for the 2006 General Assembly Session. Mr. Jackson commented that the money committees of the General Assembly would typically not consider changes that have a fiscal impact unless these changes were presented in the context of the SOQ re-basing.
- Mr. Goodman raised a concern about providing for teacher salaries that are commensurate with the national average. He commented that, given the current revenue picture, it may be appropriate to recommend such changes for the 2005 Session. Dr. Jones indicated that he could not support a major fiscal revision such as that proposed by Mr. Goodman but indicated that he respected Mr. Goodman's position.
- Ms. Wescott recommended to the Board that comments received by the Virginia Association of Secondary Principals (VASSP) on November 16 be incorporated in the SOQ. These changes relate to Standards 3 and 5. Dr. DeMary suggested that the language in Standard 5 regarding teacher evaluations be modified to incorporate all administrators to accommodate the VASSP comments.
- In addition, comments made by the Virginia School Board Association (VSBA) were about professional development for school board members were also incorporated into Standard 5. VSBA notes that the proposed language is consistent with language about professional development for superintendents.
- In summary, the following changes to the SOQ as presented to the Board in September were discussed:

- **Standard 1** - Page 6, lines 5 and 6, add language about students reaching their full potential, as recommended by Mr. Goodman;
- **Standard 2** - Page 14, lines 1 and 4, add the term “full-time equivalent” as recommended by staff in response to a comment from the public;
- **Standard 3** - Page 18, lines 22-23, replace language about evaluating student progress with language recommended by the VASSP;
- **Standard 5** - Page 23, line 1, change the title of the standard to “Quality of Classroom Instruction and Educational Leadership” as recommended by Dr. Jones.
- **Standard 5** - Page 23, line 7, replace “develop” with “implement”, as the uniform performance standards were approved by the Board in January of 2000;
- **Standard 5** - Page 23, lines 13-23, replace language concerning performance evaluations with language recommended by VASSP and add references to the evaluations of administrators and superintendents, consistent with uniform guidelines; and
- **Standard 6** - Page 25, lines 24 and 25, add language about the analysis of the data and how it can be applied to improve classroom instruction and student achievement, as recommended by Dr. Jones.